

Please amend the following claims:

a1 8. (Amended) A purified nucleic acid sequence encoding the sodium channel protein [of claims 1-7] selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:6 and SEQ NO:8 or a complementary strand thereof.

SUB 2
a2 13. (Amended) A vector comprising a nucleic acid sequence of [claims 8-12] claims 8, 9, 10, 18, 19 or 20.

a2 14. (Amended) A host cell transformed or transfected with a nucleic acid sequence of [claims 8-12] claims 8, 9, 10, 18, 19 or 20.

SUB 1-2
a3 17. (Amended) A method of producing a mammalian sensory neuron sodium channel protein, wherein the sodium channel is insensitive to tetrodotoxin, comprising expressing [said protein] a nucleic acid sequence of claim 8 in a host cell transformed with [a] said nucleic acid sequence [coding for said protein].

Please add the following new claims:

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18. A nucleic acid sequence of claim 1 wherein said nucleic acid sequence comprises the coding portion of the nucleic acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:3.

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19. A nucleic acid sequence of claim 1 wherein said nucleic acid sequence comprises the coding portion of the nucleic acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:5.

14
20. A nucleic acid sequence of claim 1 wherein said nucleic acid sequence comprises the coding portion of the nucleic acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:7.

7
21. A vector comprising a nucleic acid sequence of claim 18.

11
22. A vector comprising a nucleic acid sequence of claim 19.

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¹⁵
~~23.~~ A vector comprising a nucleic acid sequence of claim ~~20~~¹⁴.

⁸
~~24.~~ A host cell transformed or transfected with a nucleic acid sequence of claim ~~18~~⁶.

¹²
~~25.~~ A host cell transformed or transfected with a nucleic acid sequence of claim ~~18~~¹⁰.

¹⁶
~~26.~~ A host cell transformed or transfected with a nucleic acid sequence of claim ~~20~~¹⁴.

⁹
~~27.~~ A method of producing a mammalian sensory neuron sodium channel protein, wherein the sodium channel is insensitive to tetrodotoxin, comprising expressing the nucleic acid sequence of claim ~~18~~⁶ in a host cell transformed with said nucleic acid sequence.

¹³
~~28.~~ A method of producing a mammalian sensory neuron sodium channel protein, wherein the sodium channel is insensitive to tetrodotoxin, comprising expressing the nucleic acid sequence of claim ~~18~~¹⁰ in a host cell transformed with said nucleic acid sequence.

¹⁷
~~29.~~ A method of producing a mammalian sensory neuron sodium channel protein, wherein the sodium channel is insensitive to tetrodotoxin, comprising expression the nucleic acid sequence of claim ~~20~~¹⁴ in a host cell transformed with said nucleic acid.

a4
cont.
30. A purified nucleic acid sequence of claim 8 which encodes the sodium channel protein of SEQ ID NO:4.

31. A purified nucleic acid sequence of claim 8 which encodes the sodium channel protein OF SEQ ID NO:6.

32. A purified nucleic acid sequence of claim 8 which encodes the sodium channel protein of SEQ ID NO:8.

33. A purified nucleic acid sequence of claim 8 which encodes the sodium channel protein of SEQ ID NO:2. --